The Bulletin

OCTOBER 28, 1946 THE PARK AVENUE SYNAGOGUE HESHVAN 3, 5707

JEWISH COMMUNITY SPEAKERS HEARD

The first meeting of the Sisterhood for the 1946-47 season on October 22 inaugurated the program on the Jewish Community. Mr. Joseph Willen, executive vice-president of the Federation of Jewish Philanthropies, and Mr. Philip Bernstein, director of field service of the Council of Jewish Federations & Welfare Funds, were the guest speakers. As authorities in their respective fields, they were heard by a large group of the Sisterhood and their friends.

In line with its policy of inviting prominent people in the field to be discussed at a particular meeting, the Sisterhood also had as its guests on Oct. 22nd Mrs. Victor Riesenfeld, chairman, Manhattan Organizations Division of the UJA, Mrs. Frederick Heimerdinger, Chairman of the Board of the Women's Division, UJA; Mrs. Jerome I. Udell, chairman of the Women's Division, UJA, and Mrs. Benjamin Lazarus and Mrs. A. N. Geiler, Co-chairmen of this year's drive in the UJA Women's Division; also Mrs. Albert J. May, chairman of the Women's Division of the JDC-SOS.

"The synagogue is a center of communal activity," stated Mrs. Frances Peiper, Sisterhood president, commenting last week on the group's program. She indicated further that the series on the Jewish community will show the

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Adult Education Opens Fourteenth Season On Theme 'Historic Movements in Judaism'

Committee Sponsors Friday Night Lecture Series

Plans for the first semester of the 1946-47 season of the Adult Education Courses were announced last week by Harold H. Levin, chairman of the Committee on Adult Education. The Adult Education program, which is entering its fourteenth year at the Synagogue, has always played an important part in the cultural life of the membership. This season's activity program merits the support of all those who have not attended previously.

The opening meeting of the season will be held on Monday evening, November 4th at 8:30 p.m. in the Synagogue. It will be under the supervision of Cantor David J. Putterman and Milton Grass.

The speakers will be Louis Schweffel, Victor Herewitz, and Joseph H. Katz, all members of the Synagogue. They will present an analysis of the issues and candidates, and will lead a discussion following the formal presentations. Arrangements for serving of refreshments are being made by the Hospitality Committee.

The major lecture course will begin on Monday evening, November 11th, at 9:00 p.m. and will continue for six consecutive Mondays. Rabbi Kertzer's general theme will be "Historic Movements in Judaism." The first lecture, on November 11th will be entitled "The Prophetic Strain in Judaism." Also starting on November 11th, there will be two auxiliary courses beginning at 8 p.m., "The Architecture of the Prayer Book," to be given by Rabbi Kertzer, and a course on Jewish music by Cantor Putterman, who will attempt to form a regular choral group. Previous musical experience is not necessary. Registration for all courses is open to everyone, regardless of Synagogue affiliation.

In addition to the major Lecture series, the Adult Education Committee is organizing a season-long Institute on Jewish Affairs. A committee composed of Mr. Harold Starkman, and Mr. and Mrs. D. Leonard Cohen will be in charge. The Institute will comprise a series of seven lectures, to be given one Friday night each month on a question relating to the general subject. Topics and speakers will be announced in forthcoming issues of the BULLETIN.

Young People's Groups Seek Additions Synagogue Surveys Membership Data;

A survey by the synagogue of the membership's family composition is to be started with this issue of the BULLETIN. In order to plan adequately for the needs especially of the younger people, all recipients of the BULLETIN are requested to fill out the enclosed postcard and return it to the Synagogue office immediately.

It is expected that the information gained from this survey will enable the Religious School to establish discussion groups and classes among those of upper high school age, and those who are collegiates as well, according to Saul Godwin, chairman of the School Board. A Post-Confirmation class has already been established under the leadership of Mr. David Greenberg, a student in the Rabinnical School of the Jewish Theological Seminary. The group, which meets in the choir loft of the Synagogue, has named itself the group with "One Foot in Heaven!"

As soon as sufficient information is available, an attempt will be made to organize a combined social and cultural group for collegiates. It will meet at the convenience of those students on New York City campuses, and special events will be planned for the vacation periods when others will be home from out of town colleges.

In addition, those young men between the ages of twenty-three and thirty, and young women above the age of twenty-one will be invited to join the Junior League, it was announced by Miss Hortense Levy, Membership Chairman of the Junior League.

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VOL. I No. 4

From Rabbi Steinberg's Desk

One habit of speech, common of late, ought to be corrected as promptly as possible. I refer to the phrase "100,000 displaced persons," the presumed Jewish population of internment camps in Western Europe, on whose behalf efforts to open the doors of Palestine are now being carried forward.

The fact is that the number, 100,000, has been obsolete for almost a year. The actual total of Jewish D.P.'s, according to Rabbi Philip S. Bernstein, adviser on Jewish Affairs to the American Army of Occupation in Germany, is currently 225,000, and is mounting steadily as Jews continue to flee Eastern Europe.

Neither we nor the world ought to delude ourselves that the dimensions of Jewish homelessness are 100,000 souls. Indeed they far exceed even 225,000. For, in addition to D.P.'s, another half million Jews of Europe, Moslem lands, and Asia look to Palestine for deliverance from oppression and misery.

Here then is a simple test of the adequacy of any proposed solution of the Palestine impasse: does it make room for 150,000 Jewish immigrants?

* * *

"Eating one's words" is not usually a pleasurable occupation. Yet I am only too happy to admit the falsity of one prediction, on my part, made in my Rosh Hashanah sermon.

Discussing a recession of democracy in America, I alluded to the current trial for life at Lawrenceburg, Tennessee, of twenty-five Negroes who, I expressed the misgiving, were almost certain to be railroaded into conviction. My apprehension derived from the accounts of every correspondent covering the proceedings.

Apparently all of us were guilty of the sin of being "of little faith." Against all expectations an all-white jury set free twenty-three of the twenty-five accused.

According to Vincent Sheean who reported the trial for the *New York Herald Tribune*: "The effect of the verdict . . . was stunning. I doubt if anyone in the courtroom expected the result. . . . The verdict was the kind of thing that makes us realize the full splendor of our destiny as a nation. . . . Twelve citizens . . . were able to rise above a really terrifying flood of hatred let loose in the courtroom by the closing speech for the state. Where did they get the spirit that brought in this verdict? They got it from the whole complex of American life, which is still, in spite of many contradictions, the best life yet achieved on this planet for masses of men."

MILTON STEINBERG.

Here and There

An all-day conference on the subject "A University of Judaism" is being planned for Sunday, November 10th, at the Jewish Theological Seminary of America. Among those who will participate will be Dr. M. M. Kaplan, Prof. Salo Baron, and Herbert H. Lehman. Judge Simon H. Rifkind, of the Park Avenue Synagogue, will preside.

The United Synagogue of America will hold its annual meeting and banquet in New York on Sunday, November 10th. Judge Bernard Botein, Chairman of the Synagogue Board of Trustees, will act as chairman of the sessions.

Rabbi Morris N. Kertzer will journey to Canada for two speaking engagements on November 7th. He will speak at McGill University, in Montreal, in connection with the Religious Emphasis Week sponsored by the school. His subject at that time will be "Religion in the World Community." Representatives of other religious groups will participate in the series of symposiums being planned for that period. On the same day that he addresses the University forum, Rabbi Kertzer will address the local Hillel Foundation on the question of "The Fundamental Beliefs of Judaism."

Vital Statistics

Bar Mitzvahs

Peter Berkman, son of Dr. and Mrs. Jacob Berkman, on October 26th.

Gerald S. Gotterer, son of Mr. and Mrs. Abraham Gotterer, on October 26th.

Marriages

Joy, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Alexander J. Ostriker, to Mr. Gilbert Helman, on October 6th.

Anniversaries

Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Robbins celebrated their twentieth wedding anniversary recently, and Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Kaplan passed the thirty year mark of wedded bliss.

Birthdays

Felicitations to Mr. Jacob "Uncle Jake" Friedman.

Warmest greetings to Rabbi Morris N. Kertzer on his recent birthday.

Deaths

Edward Osserman, father of Dr. Harold Osserman, and Mrs. Jesse Schapiro.

Mrs. Rebecca Schapiro, mother-in-law of Mrs. Jesse Schapiro.

Mrs. Sara Busch, mother of Mr. Seymour Busch.

William Ober, son of Mrs. Belmire Ober.

Rabbi Steinberg Opens Friday Evening Services

The opening of the late Friday evening services took place on Friday evening, October 25th, at which Rabbi Milton Steinberg delivered the sermon. His topic was "The Palestine Crisis: An Appeal for Balance."

Rabbi Morris N. Kertzer will speak on a "Pattern for Jewish Survival" at the following service on November 1st, at 8:30 o'clock.

Rabbi Steinberg will preach again on Friday evening, November 8th.

A Sisterhood Friday evening service is scheduled for an early date.

The late Friday evening services, inaugurated late in October, usually extend until the end of May.

Sisterhood Speaks
by Dorothy Cross

DID YOU KNOW THAT:

The Joint Distribution Committee is campaigning for a record amount of canned foods and supplies to be sent to overseas survivors? Mrs. Louis Greenstein adores to count, sort, pack and ship all contributions sent to the synagogue. Keep her happy and well supplied.

During the war the Sisterhood sold a total of $1,364,878.00 worth of bonds?

We agree with Rabbi Steinberg when he says that the habit of attendance in *shul* on Sabbath morning can be very meaningful?

The Red Cross group in the synagogue celebrated a milestone anniversary with the completion of 7293 sown and knitted garments?

We shall contribute a regular monthly sum to the Serve-A-Camp Committee of the National Jewish Welfare Board? This provides bed radios and similar luxuries otherwise unobtainable in the Veterans Hospitals.

Mrs. Maurice Mannheimer has written about 650 annual letters of congratulations, cheer and condolence for the last 20 years?

We delivered 4400 pounds of merchandise to UNNRA and 128 cases of food, clothing, and household articles to the JDC-SOS?

Mrs. Sidney Diamond, appointed chairman of the synagogue for the Federation campaign has captivated everyone with her charm, and now hopes only that your contributions will help her surpass all past records?

Funds raised in memory of Hermine Berger provided the means for redecorating the powder room, and that the resultant effects are due to the efforts of Mrs. Jules Haft? She has missed her vocation.

Every type of religious appurtenance can be purchased through the Offering Fund of the Sisterhood? Simply call Mrs. Robert Gilbert to save money and contribute to charity at the same time.

The Torah Scholarship Fund of the Jewish Theological Seminary was increased by $150.00 sent by the women of the synagogue?

Mr. and Mrs. Herman Udelsman donated all the candy given to the children at the *Simhat Torah* party?

The Sisterhood wires the president of the U. S. and your senator whenever an important non-partisan issue it at stake?

This inaugurates the Sisterhood News Column?

Young Folks Sponsor Palestine Discussion

Fall Dance Nov. 10th

The second open Junior League meeting of the season will be held in the Synagogue vestry on Sunday evening, November 3rd at 8:15 p.m. An exciting evening's discussion is in store for those attending, with the topic for discussion announced as "Shall We Condone Violence in Palestine?" Speakers from the Zionist Organization of America, and the League for a Free Palestine have been invited to lead the discussion, and to present their respective points of view. It is expected that the guest speakers and audience will explore thoroughly the points of view held by the Jewish Agency Haganah, Irgun Zvai Leumi, as well as the Zionist stand in this country. Lois Drosin, Junior League vice president, will serve as chairman of the symposium meeting.

The Junior League's annual Fall Dance will be held on Sunday afternoon, November 10th, from 3 to 6 p.m., in the Synagogue vestry. Joe Moss' orchestra will supply the music for dancing. Young people of the synagogue and their friends are invited to attend. Tickets will cost $1.25 per person.

The membership tea, held on Sunday, October 20th at the home of Marvin Cohen, was a great success, serving as a welcome to 30 prospective members. Other young people of Junior League age are invited to communicate with Miss Hortense Levy, 427 East 89th Street.

Selma Jerskey, the organization's treasurer, announced that the Junior League contributed more than $1000 to philanthropic activities during the 1945-1946 season. This included gifts to Youth Aliyah, to the United Jewish Appeal, and to the Synagogue Library and the Religious School.

School Highlights
by Alma D. Kaplan

The first meeting of the Parents Association of the Religious School will be held in the Synagogue on Wednesday evening, November 6th. Rabbi Kertzer will be the main speaker at that time. His subject will be "What Makes Your Sammy Run?" Parents of children in the School, teachers, and all others interested are cordially invited to attend. The officers of the Parents Association are Mrs. Henry Howe, president; Mrs. Jacob Boorstein and Mrs. Seymour Wimpfheimer, vice presidents; Mrs. Isaac B. Brodsky, secretary, and Mrs. Milton Selig, treasurer. Delegates from the Parents Association to the United Parent-Teachers Association for Jewish Religious Schools are Abraham Kirshon and Harry Cohen, with I. E. Gevirtz and Mrs. Abram Blau serving as alternates.

The School Board is pleased to announce the establishment of a Boy Scout troop in the Synagogue. A troop committee, composed of fathers of boys in the organization, is now being organized under the direction of Mr. Alvin R. Cowan. Mr. Cowan is the training representative of the Manhattan Council of the Boy Scouts, and his present assignment is to work with the Lexington District.

Parents of boys twelve years and over are invited to act as sponsors of the new Scout Troop and are asked to communicate with Rabbi Kertzer at once. A meeting of the sponsors will be called as soon as a sufficient number of names are received at the Synagogue.

VETERANS RETURN TO CONGREGATION

At a recent meeting of the Board of Trustees eight members of the Congregation who had been away on military duty were reinstated in active membership in the Synagogue. It is a pleasure to welcome them back, for all were among the most active of the younger members prior to their war service. They include:

J. Dobrin
Arthur Finston
Dr. Allan Goldbloom
Victor Herewitz
Lester Metzger
Jerome Oppenheimer
Erwin Waldman
Dr. Harry Wechsler

Children Pledge on Simhat Torah

The *Simhat Torah* services on Thursday and Friday, October 17th and 18th, closed the High Holy Day Season for the year 5707. The occasion was highlighted by the citation of Judge Simon H. Rifkind as *Hatan Torah* and of Emmanuel Rosenthal, Secretary of the Congregation, as *Hatan Bereshith*. A colorful ceremony honored these two men for their services to the immediate Jewish community and also to the broader field.

On *Simhat Torah* Eve the service was designed especially for the young children of the Congregation. In addition to the traditional parade about the Synagogue with the Torahs, and American and Palestinian flags, a special feature was introduced for the first time. Each child about to enter the Religious or the Hebrew School for the first time was called to the altar personally by the rabbis. Here each child pledged his or her loyalty to the American nation and to its people, and to the Jewish cultural heritage each is about to study. Each child was then presented with a miniature *sefer torah,* as a token of membership among the students of Jewish values. Candies and other goodies were distributed to all children present at the service.

At the conclusion of the ceremonies on *Simhat Torah* day refreshments were served in the vestry through the hospitality of the Sisterhood.

Will You Attend?

Sunday, Nov. 3rd, 8:30 p.m.—Junior League Symposium

Monday, Nov. 4th, 8:30 p.m.—Pre-election Symposium

Wednesday, Nov. 6th, 8:30 p.m.—Parents' Assn. of the Religious School, Open Meeting

Sunday, Nov. 10th, 3 p.m.—Junior League Fall Dance

Monday, Nov. 11th, 8 p.m.—Opening of the Adult Education Courses.

Sisterhood Program

(Continued from page 1)

relationship between all groups, and especially make the work of Sisterhood more meaningful to its members.

"Did You Know That:", a "personals" column by the Sisterhood and about its members, makes its first appearance on another page of this issue. Designed especially to give publicity to important activities and personalities in that organization, it will appear regularly and will supplement regular news releases by the group.

Its series on the future of the Jewish community well launched, the Sisterhood plans to develop all aspects of the problem at future meetings, including discrimination, minority rights, youth activities and programs. The next lecture in the series will be held on Nov. 26th, at which time the principal speaker will be Dr. John Slawson, of the American Jewish Committee.

Forest Hills Series Opened By Kertzer

Rabbi Kertzer has been invited to open the adult education series at the Forest Hills Jewish Center on Monday evening, October 28th.

Jewish Musical Contest Opened

The National Jewish Music Council is sponsoring a composition contest through its Musical Awards Committee. A prize of $1000 is being offered for an orchestral work of symphonic dimensions which uses material reflective of the Jewish musical spirit and the Jewish people. Similarly, a prize of $500 is being offered for a chamber music piece, and $500 will be given for the winning musical playlet or operetta suitable for presentation in connection with the Jewish Festivals.

Dr. Ernst Bloch, the famous composer, is serving as chairman of the sponsoring committee. Mr. Frederick Jacobi will be the chairman of the judges. All persons interested are invited to discuss the matter with Cantor Putterman.

SEEK WAR RECORDS

The Congregation has been asked to participate in the War Records research program being carried on by the National Jewish Welfare Board. In a recent letter to Rabbi Kertzer, Jacob Bleibtreu, Chairman of the Greater New York War Records Committee stated in part: "If you have a relative or friend who served in the armed forces, submit his name to us at once. If any of these have been wounded, received decorations and awards, or have made the supreme sacrifice, please advise us at once." All members of the Congregation so concerned are asked to correspond with Mr. Bleibtreu at the Greater New York War Records Committee, 55 W. 42nd Street, New York 18, N. Y.

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

SABBATH EVE.....Friday, November 1, 8:15 o'clock

Rabbi Kertzer will preach on
"A Pattern For Jewish Survival."

SABBATH MORNING.....Saturday, November 2nd, 9:30 o'clock

Junior Congregation Service at 10:30 a.m.

SABBATH EVE.....Friday, November 8th, 8:15 o'clock

Rabbi Steinberg will preach on
'Sholem Asch's "East River": An Appraisal'

SABBATH MORNING.....Saturday, November 9th, 9:30 o'clock

Junior Congregation service at 10:30 a.m.